

We claim:

1. An elapsed time apparatus capable of adding an elapsed time to a digital image generated by a digital image capturing device, comprising:
 - a counter capable of measuring an elapsed time between a first image capture and a second image capture;
 - a memory capable of storing a plurality of digital images and further capable of storing at least one elapsed time value; and
 - a processor communicating with said counter and said memory and obtaining an elapsed time value from said counter upon said second image capture, and adding said elapsed time value to a second digital image captured during said second image capture.
2. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said counter generates a first image capture time and a second image capture time, and wherein said processor subtracts said first image capture time from said second image capture time to produce said elapsed time value.
3. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said processor starts said counter upon capture of a first digital image and reads an elapsed time value from said counter upon capture of said second digital image.

4. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, and wherein said memory stores an elapsed time value for each digital image captured during said elapsed time mode.

5. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects and adds a particular elapsed time value to a corresponding stored digital image.

6. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said memory stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said digital image.

7. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 1, wherein said digital image is stored in an image storage and said adding step overwrites said elapsed time value onto a portion of said digital image stored in said image storage.

8. An elapsed time apparatus capable of adding an elapsed time to a digital image generated by a digital image capturing device, comprising:
 - an elapsed time counter capable of being reset upon a first image capture;
 - a memory capable of storing a plurality of digital images and further capable of storing at least one elapsed time value; and
 - a processor communicating with said counter and said memory and starting said elapsed time counter upon said first image capture, reading an elapsed time value from said elapsed time counter upon a second image capture, and adding said elapsed time value to a second digital image captured during said second image capture.
9. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, and wherein said memory stores an elapsed time value for each digital image captured during said elapsed time mode.
10. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, further comprising at least one input device capable of accepting a user input that selects and adds a particular elapsed time value to a corresponding stored digital image.
11. The elapsed time apparatus of claim 8, wherein said memory stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said digital image.

13. A computer-implemented elapsed time generation method for a digital image capturing device, comprising the steps of:

generating an elapsed time value in a counter of an elapsed time between a first image capture and a second image capture in said digital image capturing device; and

adding said elapsed time value to said digital image captured at said second image capture time.

14. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein the generating step further comprises the steps of:

generating a first image capture time generated by said counter upon said first image capture;

generating a second image capture time generated by said counter upon said second image capture; and

subtracting said first image capture time from said second image capture time to produce said elapsed time value.

15. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein the generating step further comprises the steps of:

resetting said counter upon said first image capture; and

reading said elapsed time value from said counter upon said second image capture.

16. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, further comprising the step of accepting a user input that selects or de-selects an elapsed time mode, with an elapsed time value being generated for each digital image captured during said elapsed time mode.

17. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, further comprising the step of accepting a user input that controls said adding of said elapsed time value to said digital image.

18. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said adding step further comprises the steps of:

storing said elapsed time value;

accepting a user input that selects an elapsed time value addition for said digital image; and

adding said elapsed time value to said digital image.

19. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said adding step stores said elapsed time value in an elapsed time storage associated with said digital image.

20. The computer-implemented method of claim 13, wherein said digital image is stored in an image storage and said adding step overwrites said elapsed time value onto a portion of said digital image.